



Motor Gasoline Watch

October 14, 1999

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

SUPPLY

- A decline in demand contributed to an increase in stocks last week, despite a decrease in production. Total motor gasoline stocks increased 2.1 million barrels to end the week at 203.2 million barrels. Stocks of reformulated gasoline decreased 0.5 million barrels to 37.7 million barrels while stocks of other finished gasoline rose 2.3 million barrels to 120.0 million barrels. Stocks of motor gasoline blending components ended the week at 44.6 million barrels, 0.7 million barrels above the level at the end of the prior week.
- Total motor gasoline stocks at the primary storage level were 2.5 million barrels below the level for the same week last year. Imports of total gasoline averaged 581 thousand barrels per day of which 143 thousand barrels per day were reformulated and 297 thousand barrels per day were blending components.

Gasoline Production by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Thousand Barrels per Day)

District	Total Finished Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
	09/17/99	09/24/99	10/01/99	10/08/99	10/09/98	09/17/99	09/24/99	10/01/99	10/08/99	10/09/98
East Coast (PADD I)	1,004	1,003	1,103	1,172	1,050	609	625	776	727	556
Midwest (PADD II)	1,949	2,115	1,974	2,017	1,917	264	307	291	278	299
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	3,653	3,689	3,806	3,721	3,084	688	750	796	754	651
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	242	272	271	281	274	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	1,424	1,415	1,437	1,289	1,389	993	964	990	887	923
U.S. Total	8,271	8,493	8,590	8,481	7,715	2,554	2,646	2,853	2,646	2,429

Gasoline Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Million Barrels)

District	Total Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
	09/17/99	09/24/99	10/01/99	10/08/99	10/08/98	09/17/99	09/24/99	10/01/99	10/08/99	10/08/98
East Coast (PADD I)	53.3	53.4	53.4	54.2	55.0	14.8	15.6	14.9	15.0	18.9
Midwest (PADD II)	57.0	55.2	56.2	56.2	55.0	2.2	1.7	2.0	2.2	1.3
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	56.9	58.5	59.2	59.3	61.0	9.9	9.5	11.1	10.3	9.1
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	5.9	6.1	6.3	5.9	6.1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	28.4	26.7	26.0	27.6	28.6	11.0	10.5	10.3	10.3	12.3
U.S. Total	201.3	199.9	201.1	203.2	205.7	37.9	37.2	38.2	37.7	41.5

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PRICES

- Given evidence of weakening adherence to production cut agreements, crude oil traders appeared concerned that a meeting planned for the Mexican, Venezuelan, and Saudi oil ministers in November may lead to increased production. The impact was substantially lower petroleum spot prices. On October 11, 1999, the New York Harbor spot price for conventional regular gasoline was 60.00 cents per gallon, off over eight cents. Even with some upcoming refinery repairs, the California grade reformulated gasoline spot price in Los Angeles was off 10.50 cents per gallon.
- Another drop in the Midwest helped lower the national average retail price for regular gasoline to 124.9 cents per gallon on October 11, 1999, 0.6 cent lower than last week but 22.7 cents higher than last year. As expected, an eight-week decline in the California average ended this week with a penny upturn prompted by previous increases in gasoline spot prices.

Regular Gasoline Spot Prices by City (Cents per Gallon)

City	Conventional Gasoline					Reformulated Gasoline				
	09/20/99	09/27/99	10/04/99	10/11/99	10/12/98	09/20/99	09/27/99	10/04/99	10/11/99	10/12/98
New York	68.40	72.66	68.53	60.00	41.88	67.15	68.53	69.35	61.00	43.38
Chicago	65.60	67.66	62.80	57.63	40.13	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Houston	63.75	66.13	62.78	55.88	39.75	68.88	73.56	64.22	58.00	42.50
Los Angeles	63.00	69.50	74.50	64.00	43.00	66.00	72.50	77.00	66.50	46.50

Source: Reuters Information Services.

Regular Gasoline Retail Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Cents per Gallon, Including Taxes)

District	Conventional Gasoline					Reformulated Gasoline				
	09/20/99	09/27/99	10/04/99	10/11/99	10/12/98	09/20/99	09/27/99	10/04/99	10/11/99	10/12/98
East Coast (PADD I)	120.6	120.9	121.3	121.5	97.8	127.7	128.3	129.6	129.8	103.5
Midwest (PADD II)	125.5	124.1	122.4	120.3	100.6	131.0	129.5	126.7	125.7	105.7
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	120.1	121.2	121.2	120.9	96.9	118.6	118.9	119.1	119.1	96.0
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	137.5	137.1	136.7	136.0	111.9	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	138.8	137.7	137.1	136.7	112.5	141.4	138.4	137.2	138.3	114.0
U.S. Average	124.7	124.3	123.6	122.6	100.6	131.1	130.2	129.7	129.9	106.0

Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-878, Motor Gasoline Price Survey.

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